

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In Re Application of: James P. Elia |) | |
| |) | Group Art Unit: NOT YET ASSIGNED |
| Serial No.: NOT YET ASSIGNED |) | |
| |) | Examiner: NOT YET ASSIGNED |
| Filed: HEREWITH |) | |
| |) | |
| For: TREATMENT FOR ARTHRITIS |) | |

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please amend the instant application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-158 without prejudice to including such or similar claims of a different scope in a subsequent continuation, divisional, or continuation-in-part patent application, and substitute therefore the following new claims:

159. A method for treating arthritis comprising inserting a growth factor at a desired location in a human patient to reduce inflammation.
160. The method of claim 159, wherein said growth factor comprises a member selected from the group consisting of cells, cellular products, and derivatives of cellular products.
161. The method of claim 160, wherein said growth factor comprises a cell.
162. The method of claim 161, wherein said cell comprises a stem cell.